

Message

From: "Steve Moyer" ["Steve Moyer" <SMoyer@tu.org>]
Sent: 6/14/2012 1:37:52 PM
To: Tami Fordham/R10/USEPA/US@EPA; Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA; ichard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: No delay on Bristol Bay watershed assessment process
Attachments: image001.gif; www.tu.org

Dear EPA overseeing the Bristol Bay watershed assessment process:

Trout Unlimited (TU) is writing to urge you to deny recent requests for extending the public comment process on the watershed assessment, and to complete the process without further delay.

Thank you for conducting the recent public hearings on the draft Bristol Bay watershed assessment. From all accounts, there was remarkable support shown for EPA's work in Bristol Bay.

The agency and its staff have done a tremendous job reviewing existing information about the region and the potential impacts of large-scale mining on salmon. In fact, it appears to us that sufficient information exists today for EPA to protect Bristol Bay.

Your team needs to be commended for employing a robust process that clearly met its mark in encouraging and acquiring meaningful public input. These are the most extensive hearings that have ever been held in the region on mining, and the assessment lends itself to easy review and input.

We have been involved in this issue for several years already, and we will continue to be involved as the process moves forward.

We know that the Pebble Limited Partnership (PLP) and a few others have asked for an extension of time on the comment period. We disagree with the need for any extension, and urge EPA to stick to its time schedule. The time frame and period for input equals or exceeds public review and comment periods provided by the State of Alaska on important issues in Bristol Bay.

Please stand firm and complete the watershed assessment without further delay. The continued uncertainty caused by the interminable process PLP and the State allow for the proposed Pebble Mine harms our interests. It is time to get this done.

Thank you.

Steve Moyer

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